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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Madison *et al.*

Art Unit : 1652

Serial No. : 09/776,191

Examiner : Yong D. Pak

Confirmation No.: 3237

Customer No.: 20985

Filed : February 2, 2001

Title : **NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES ENCODING TRANSMEMBRANE
SERINE PROTEASES, THE ENCODED PROTEINS AND METHODS
BASED THEREON**

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

Dear Sir:

In connection with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-captioned application, Applicant requests consideration and entry of the following amendment and response, responsive to the Office Action, mailed July 29, 2005.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450

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